

Redstone Rocket

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February 5, 2003

Helping hands



*Singer/songwriter
donates telegrams*

Page 4

On fast track

*Drill sergeant
earns honors*

Page 8

Soldiers at ease



*Army theatre troupe
to perform on post*

Page 12

Post profile

*Thrift Shop volunteer
serving customers*

Page 16



Win or lose



*A&M ROTC foursome
finishes with flourish*

Page 18

Post library takes technology leap

*Computers, automated catalog
go online for use by patrons*

By **SANDY RIEBELING**

Staff writer

sandyr@htimes.com

A young man gingerly knocks on the door to the post library then pushes it open far enough to peek in and see the staff already buzzing around the stacks getting ready for another day.

"I know you're not open yet but I really need to print out a document," he said, hoping to catch a break from library technician Martha Piskulic. "It's just a couple of pages..."

Piskulic smiles and waves him through the door. "Sign in at the desk. We'll take care of you."

A few months ago, Piskulic would have had to turn him away. Not because she didn't want to help but because the library didn't have the resources.

Public access computers only became available in November, after a yearlong effort through the Army Materiel Command's library automation project. Funding of \$102,000 provided training, processing, collection development, supplies and five new computers for public use.

"The project was pulled together through the Herculean efforts of Lorna Dodt (AMC command librarian), to meet Army baseline standards level of functionality," post librarian Gail Alden said. "One of the requirements was to automate."

Automation means more than providing Internet access to patrons, though. It's about stepping out of the dark ages of paper cuts from old-fashioned card catalog searches to a few key strokes and the click of a mouse to find a book title, author or subject information.

The library's resource information has been inventoried and stored in an electronic card catalog that allows patrons to do computer searches by subject, title or author, as well as check resources available from other libraries that share the same system.



Photo By Sandy Riebeling

GETTING CONNECTED— Library technician Martha Piskulic boots up one of the five new computers that provide patrons access to the Internet and the computerized card catalog at the post library.

"If they find a book title at another library, we can get it for them through the interlibrary loan system. We're on the same system as the Huntsville Public Library," Alden said.

Library automation also means bar-coding every book on the shelf, a tedious process for the 40,000 plus books at the library.

"That means people won't be signing out books like they do

See **Library** on page 7

Things that make you go, 'Hmmmmmmmm.....'

*Federal ethics violators
should've known better*

It makes you wonder what these federal workers were thinking while misbehaving.

The Standards of Conduct Office of the Department of Defense General Counsel's Office assembled a selection of cases of ethical failure to give DoD personnel with real examples of federal employees who have intentionally or unwittingly violated the standards of conduct.

Some cases are humorous, some sad and all are real. Some will anger you as a federal employee and some will anger you as an American taxpayer.

Foul spray

A former FBI agent pleaded guilty to violating 18 U.S. Code 208, which prohibits federal employees from participating in official acts in which they have a person-

al financial interest. The FBI agent recommended the use of a pepper spray by the FBI and received \$57,500 in payments from the pepper spray producers through a company owned by his wife. The former FBI agent researched and tested the use of pepper spray for the FBI, which resulted in his initial contact with the product's manufacturer. At the conclusion of the agent's research, the FBI approved the use of the pepper spray for its agents, and the products were purchased from the company that he recommended. Additionally, as a result of the FBI agent's research, other law enforcement agencies nationwide began to use the pepper spray produced by the company.

The former FBI agent was sentenced to two months imprisonment followed by three years of supervised release for his violation of 18 U.S. Code 208. This statute bars federal employees from officially participating (in this case, even making a recommendation) in particular matters (in this

case, a contract to buy pepper spray) that have a direct and predictable effect on the employee's financial interests or those of the employee's spouse or minor children.

Beyond repair

A DEA agent whose responsibilities included fleet management and authorization of repairs of government vehicles had attempted to obtain free repair services for his personal vehicles from two vendors. The agent also insinuated to the vendors that the cost of repairing his personal vehicles could be recouped as part of the charges for repairs to government vehicles. After these allegations were substantiated, the agent was dismissed from the Drug Enforcement Agency.

Wrong message

The son of a bureau director was denied a rental car because he was too young. Outraged, his father wrote a scathing letter (on

See **Ethics** on page 9

Letters to the editor

Vehicle inspection bugs driver

A few weeks ago there was a stomach bug going around the Huntsville area that sent many people to the hospital. My wife and I ended up going to the ER late one evening because she was in and out of consciousness. We were lucky that a neighbor was able to stay home with my 1- and 2-year-old boys. While at the ER, our neighbor had called the hospital to let us know that our 2-year-old was sick as well and that she would try to help him there at our house. My wife and I ended up staying there for approximately four hours and we received two IVs each to replenish our dehydrated bodies and we were both prescribed phenegrin for our nausea. We were discharged around 1 a.m. and drove to Gate 9 on Rideout Road.

When I pulled up to the gate, I could see that the National Guard soldier (name and rank unknown due to reflective vest) was finishing a vehicle inspection on the car in front of me. As I pulled up, I asked him if we could go on through without an inspection. I went on to describe the events of that night to him and told him that my 2-year-old was at home and was very sick. When he blew me off and told me that we needed to both get out of the vehicle, I shook my head in disgust. At this point he told me and my wife that if we had an attitude he would turn us around and not let us on post and if it got really bad he would take me to jail for the night. I couldn't believe what I was hearing. At

no time did I get upset or shout or give him any reason to threaten me. I am ashamed to say that I allowed my wife to step out of the vehicle in her state, but I could not think straight due to the events of that night. After the vehicle inspection was over, the guard made the comment, "See, that wasn't so bad, was it?" I would like to know if this is the treatment I can expect from the Redstone gate guards?

Spec. Jonathan Bierer
HHC AMCOM

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "The Provost Marshal Office would like to apologize for any rudeness on the part of anyone assigned / attached to this organization. World events have dictated the increased security posture that is being provided at each of the installation access control points and all who are tasked with performing this important mission take their jobs very seriously. However, even though there are prescribed security procedures that must be adhered to there are situations that must be looked at individually, such as the incident you described."

"In the future the Provost Marshal Office requests that all who are involved in situations of rudeness and non-professionalism report the incident immediately to the Provost Marshal Office to allow us to efficiently investigate and take appropriate measures. Thank you for your concern."

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**Security
Checkpoint
Ahead**

Organization title corrected

The organization for which Geneva Murphy works was incorrectly identified in the Jan. 29 article about revising the telephone directory. Murphy is a telecommunications specialist in the Directorate of Information Management within the Garrison. Changes regarding corrections to the Redstone Arsenal Telephone Directory for

2003-04 should be e-mailed to Murphy at geneva.murphy@redstone.army.mil or faxed to her at 876-1098. To update your personal information, go to the AMCOM InfoWeb, click on "Phone Book" and follow the prompts. The deadline for submitting all corrections (individuals and organizations) is Feb. 24.

Best leaders energize others

Several months ago the *Rocket* asked its readers to provide observations on leadership; some unique and interesting interpretations resulted. Leadership remains an elusive, frequently hard to quantify principle, especially for a civil service work force that continues to hemorrhage senior, seasoned managers. The result is that those now ascending to positions of strategic responsibility have little understanding that a good manager is not always a good leader.

Leadership is as much about teaching as it is about achievement. First-class

leaders stimulate, inspire and listen while guiding and looking after the welfare of subordinates. Exceptional leaders are filled with passion, committed to making things happen, open to ideas from anywhere, and make work fun and productive. The best leaders have high energy levels, the ability to energize others around common goals, the sharpness to make tough decisions, and the ability to consistently execute and deliver on promises. The self-assured leader is not a micro-manager but will insist on excellence; if you want

See **Leaders** on page 3

An open lane random survey

What needs improvement at Redstone Arsenal?

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net



Pvt. Debra Ellis

"I don't have any complaints. I really don't find many things wrong here."



Darrel Lacanne, retired soldier

"Maybe get rid of the speed bumps. They're a pain."



Pvt. Robert Poland

"I've only been here for a month, and the only thing is that we don't have much access to the stuff here yet. But from what I've seen, I'm quite happy."



Maj. Jay Hall

"Badging and Registration needs to be made more efficient. It's not very efficient now, and maybe some satellite offices for the decal disbursement."

Redstone Rocket

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Army realigning major commands, field agencies

ARMY RELEASE

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Army Thomas White announced Thursday decisions from a review of Army Realignment Phase 2 — Field Operating Agencies and Phase 3 — Major Commands initiatives. These initiatives are designed to streamline decision-making processes and achieve efficiencies as the Army adapts to meet rapidly changing institutional and operational challenges.

MACOM and FOA realignments are a continuation of the secretary's initiative started in June 2001 with the Headquarters, Department of the Army to assess all Army headquarters and supporting activities and properly align responsibility and authority and eliminate redundancy within and between commands and agencies. The realignment initiatives complement the chief of staff's vision for transforming the operational forces. The majority of the FOA realignment decisions and MACOM realignments proposals will begin in fiscal 2004.

Field operating agencies

The FOAs are organizations that execute policy on behalf of Department of the Army agencies. Decisions about the following Army agencies have been made:

- Office of the Inspector General — The TIG will integrate 10 Reserve component soldiers into the organization and consolidate its Information Technology activity with the Army Directorate of Information Management.
- The Judge Advocate General — The

Army Legal Service Agency will eliminate one function and 22 spaces, while the TJAG School will eliminate seven spaces.

- Army Contracting Agency — One hundred spaces were eliminated in the consolidation and further reductions are proposed over the next three years.

- Simulation, Training and Instrumentation Command — STRICOM has been eliminated and its acquisition functions transferred to the Army Acquisition Executive as a program executive office. Research and development activities were retained in Army Materiel Command.

- Logistics Integration Agency — Consolidation of this agency will eliminate 25 spaces and provide more integrated support to the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4.

- Army Physical Fitness Research Institute — APFRI has been transferred to the control of the Surgeon General from the Army War College, and the spaces will move to the Medical Command on Oct. 1.

- Army War College — The Peacekeeping Institute is disestablished and its missions and functions transferred to Training and Doctrine Command. Further, 26 other AWC spaces are eliminated, and the college is transferred to TRADOC.

- Center for Military History — Thirteen spaces are transferred to Fort Belvoir, Va., to begin establishment of the National Museum of the U.S. Army.

- Army Test and Evaluation Command — The command will assess the potential

for consolidation and co-location of headquarters and report recommendations this spring.

- Army National Guard Readiness Center — The center will reduce 164 spaces.

A study of Human Resources agencies, activities and missions has been completed. Results are expected within 60 to 90 days. The Army will announce decisions after the findings and recommendations have been briefed and approved.

Major commands

Preliminary decisions about realignment of MACOM headquarters have been made. Over the next few months MACOMs will develop implementation plans that address the organizational and other challenges involved. Changes would affect the following commands: U. S. Army Europe, U.S. Army Pacific, Eighth Army, U.S. Army South, Forces Command, Army Materiel Command and the Military Traffic Management Command.

The major commands listed below will become Direct Reporting Units to the designated Headquarters staff principal as follows:

- Army Medical Command to the Surgeon General.
- Army Intelligence and Security Command to the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-2.
- Military District of Washington to the Chief of Staff, Army.
- Criminal Investigation Command to

the Provost Marshal General, a new position on the HQDA staff.

- Network Enterprise Technology Command to the CIO/G-6.

The following commands remain unchanged: Special Operations Command, Army Corps of Engineers, Training and Doctrine Command and the Space and Missile Defense Command.

The realignments more clearly define responsibility and authority within functional areas; realign fragmented organizations; eliminate duplication of effort; incorporate, where appropriate, better business practices and organizational concepts; and optimize the use of technology. The realignments are designed to improve the control of resources and thereby provide tangible benefit to Army commands, installations and soldiers and their families.

Thursday's announcement is the result of continuing efforts by the Headquarters, Department of the Army Realignment Task Force that White established June 25, 2001. The Phase 2 and 3 task forces were established Jan. 8, 2002, immediately following the announcement of the final Phase 1 decisions. The two task forces, consisting of about 30 senior civilians and military members of HQDA, looked at all aspects of Army agencies and MACOMs to include: acquisition, headquarters management, logistics, operations, training, intelligence, requirements development, resource management, external affairs, and civil works.

■ No magic formula to great leadership

Leaders

continued from page 2

excellence, the organizational ambience must reflect total excellence.

The application of various leadership principles is, more often than not, situational. I maintain that strong teams are built by leaders treating individuals differently. Everyone must undoubtedly feel they have a stake in the objective; they must sense they have an investment in the game. But that doesn't mean everyone on the team must be treated the same way. I subscribe to the philosophy of "meritocracy — winning teams come from differentiation, rewarding the best and removing the weakest, always fighting to raise the bar." A strong, confident leader will cultivate a team full of princi-

pled, enthusiastic people, with solid values and superior integrity.

Because an organization takes its cue from the top, I contend the autocrat and bureaucrat remain the most harmful and difficult leaders with which to deal. The autocrat delivers through intimidation, forcing performance rather than inspiring it. This corrupts allegiance and encourages disloyalty. An instinctive leader will never lose sight of the goal and will shield subordinates from the bureaucratic leader. A leader obsessed with "processes" frequently not only loses sight of the organization's mission and purpose, but strangles passion, chemistry, and innovation, while sowing mediocrity. The free flow of ideas is eradicated. Dogmatic leaders build second-rate organizations.

Constant self-assessment remains essential to growth; a self-confident

leader will accept the fact he or she has flaws and will always work to become a better leader. Weak leaders surround themselves with weak subordinates frequently obsessing on the irrelevant. Strong leaders practice mutual respect and trust and are intolerant of pettiness. An astute leader will temper the desire to lead with preparation, experience and opportunity. Knowing when to lead with your analytical reasoning and when to lead with your senses and your soul will always be a challenge. There is no magic formula for becoming a great leader; however, intelligent, intuitive leadership

will always lead to matchless results.

Priority for general schedule public service in recent years has been reductions, cutbacks and obligatory retirements. Senior management would do well to place greater importance on reconstituting those leadership qualities lost as quickly and as definitively as the last Voluntary Early Retirement Authority/Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay. If not, the cancer of inadequate leadership will ultimately affect us all.

Christopher Chavez



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00220492

Cancer benefit strikes chord with country music artist

Mary Frey planning singing telegrams, walking for cure

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Country singer/songwriter Mary Frey wants to sing for you and help medical research at the same time.

The money she raises to walk in a half-marathon June 21 in Anchorage, Alaska will benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Frey, a member of the local chapter of Team in Training, will walk in honor of a Redstone co-worker, Pat Bradford, who had lymphoma a year and a half ago.

"To help raise money, I'm going to offer a singing telegram service from now till June," Frey, a computer engineer in Missile Guidance Directorate at Research Development and Engineering Center, said. "For a \$20 donation to the Society, I'll do singing telegrams."

The songs she performs will fit the occasion - Valentines Day, birthdays and so on - and the giver's relationship to the recipient. She wants people to call her at 880-2187 two days beforehand so she can personalize the telegram. Checks should be made payable to Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and mailed to Frey at 7809 Regent Place 5, Huntsville, AL, 35802.

Frey and co-worker Nita Boyd, a contractor with Computer Sciences Corporation, will walk in Bradford's honor at the half-marathon which covers 13.1 miles. Their cost is \$4,900 each. "Any money you get goes to the Society. You just need that much to go and walk in the half-marathon," Frey said.



Photo by Barry Jordan/RD&E Center

SUPPORTIVE CO-WORKERS— From left are contractor worker Nita Boyd and computer engineers Pat Bradford and Mary Frey of Missile Guidance Directorate.

Frey and Boyd belong to the North Alabama Chapter of Team in Training which has grown this year to 30 members. The members walk, run, bike or swim in endurance events throughout the nation to raise money for research into leukemia and lymphoma.

Bradford, a computer engineer in Missile Guidance Directorate, had low grade B-cell non-Hodgkins lymphoma. He first noticed a painless lump under his left jaw while shaving. His doctor diagnosed it as an abscess and treated it with antibiotics. When the bump didn't disappear, a biopsy found the lymphoma. During eight weeks,

doctors removed one lymph node and treated half of his jaw with radiation and Rituxin. Bradford lost a square of his hair because of the radiation which also caused him to temporarily lose his sense of taste and made it hard to talk or swallow.

"But I was very fortunate," the 46-year-old Montgomery native said. "My cancer was caught at stage one. And with lymphomas, only about less than 1 percent are caught at stage one. Generally it's spread by the time they're caught."

Bradford's primary oncologist was Dr.

Marshall Schreeder and his radiation oncologist was Dr. Noel Estopinal, both of the Comprehensive Cancer Institute in Huntsville.

"I find myself saying thank you a lot more. So, thank you," Bradford said, turning toward Frey. "And I notice in playing with the kids, I often stop and remind myself to remember what's going on."

Bradford and his wife, Nelda, have a daughter, Dori, 7, and a son, Robert, 5. He will have worked at Redstone 21 years in April.

Frey, a professional singer/songwriter for six years, has worked in the same office for more than 13 years. She takes her 6-year-old daughter, Kayla, to the Team in Training meetings. "She'd never heard of cancer, now she does," said Frey, who graduated from high school in Clarksville, Tenn., and is in her early 30s.

The chapter provides coaches for its members in their chosen endurance sport. Frey and Boyd are training for their 13.1-mile walk under the guidance of Mary Russler, whose daughter Emmie has leukemia. The kickoff meeting was Jan. 22.

"I'm at a point in my life where I've spent a lot of time working on myself," Frey said. "There are so many other people that need help. I'm trying to be a good role model for my kid and I just want to give something back."

"I think it's great," Bradford said of the effort by his two co-workers. "I have to say I have mixed feelings about being a poster child," he added smiling. "But what they're doing is great. I really do appreciate it."

2003 Black History Month program slated Feb. 20

EEO OFFICE RELEASE

Every February we observe National African American History Month, also known as "Black History Month," to celebrate and honor the many achievements and contributions made by African Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development.

In 1915, Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History. Through that association, he began pressing for the establishment of Negro History Week as a way to bring national attention to the accomplishments of African Americans. He wanted to neutralize the apparent distortions in black history and to provide a more objective and scholarly balance to American and world history.

Woodson's dream became a reality in 1926. He chose the second week in February for the observance because of its proximity to the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, two individuals who Woodson felt had dramatically affected the lives of African Americans.

In the early 1970s the event was called Black History Week and in 1976, the association succeeded in expanding the observance which then became Black History Month.

In accordance with Department of the Army, this year's theme for Black History Month is The Souls of Black Folk (100th Anniversary). Souls is a compilation of 14 essays authored by W.E.B. DuBois. The essays cover a wide variety of topics and were written based on DuBois' travels through the South and his encounters with "black folk."

The scheduled speaker for Team Redstone's Black History Month Program is Dr. Homer McCall, chaplain and assistant professor at Alabama A&M University and the pastor of St. John AME Church in Huntsville. The program will be held Feb. 20 at 9 a.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. All of Team Redstone is encouraged to attend. For more information call Bernard Collier of Garrison Equal Employment Opportunity Office at 876-9223.

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00218181

Helicopter hydraulics effort may help prevent accidents

*Contaminated fluid
a suspected factor
in fatal 1999 crash*

PROPULSION SYSTEMS RELEASE

Engineers here are involved in a program to prevent helicopter crashes caused by contaminated hydraulic fluid.

The Hydraulic Contaminated Control Program began after the fatal crash of an AH-64 Apache in May 1999 in which contaminated hydraulic fluid was suspected as a contributing factor.

Jerry Smith of Aviation Engineering Directorate's systems engineering support division, Ken Wegrzyn of propulsion division and Al Yeske of Westar Corporation belong to the program's integrated process team led by Mark Jeude of propulsion division.

Smith, Wegrzyn and Yeske, along with teammates Stewart Block and Todd Mason of AED and Randy Sullivan of Westar, spent a week at Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., with the 3rd Aviation Brigade sampling hydraulic fluid from UH-60, AH-64 and CH-47 helicopters.

Samples were taken without the typical bottle and tube method. The engineers instead used portable particle counters which sample the fluid in the aircraft system as it circulates through the components. The counters can measure the number and size of particles as small as 4 microns. A micron is one-millionth of a meter, and the average human hair is from 80 to 300 microns in diameter.

When the engineers found an aircraft system that was contaminated, they used a clean, dry Aviation Ground Power Unit to clean the aircraft fluid to acceptable levels. The power unit is managed by the Aviation Ground Support Equipment Weapon Systems Manager.

The team will continue to sample the



Courtesy photo

JUST CHECKING— Jerry Smith and Ken Wegrzyn monitor the contamination level of the hydraulic fluid from the aircraft and the pressure from the Aviation Ground Power Unit, while Al Yeske cycles the flight controls of the UH-60 to circulate the system's hydraulic fluid.

Army fleet worldwide for contamination and work with aircraft program managers to enhance maintenance and housekeeping procedures. The sampling effort is just part of the team's charter which includes aircraft servicing, filter testing, flight-testing, component database management, and soldier training. Other members of the propulsion division's team are Hoa Mai and Mike Stringfellow.

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Deaf maybe, but disabled never

Redstone engineer honored for community contributions

By KELLEY LANE

Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

Tony Labath may not be able to hear, but do not call him disabled. In fact, "abled" may be the only way to describe the RD&E Center engineer.

At the Huntsville Area Deaf Awareness Committee's biennial banquet at the Senior Center in September, Labath was honored for his ability. He was named Deaf Person of the Year.

"Tony was an easy choice because of his leadership abilities," MaryAnn Hickman, chairperson of HADAC's Nominating Committee, said. Labath was presented with a plaque to commemorate the event.

Labath has been a member of the aviation group in the production engineering division of the Engineering Directorate here for more than five years. He arrived as part of the St. Louis move in 1997. Providing assistance to programs such as the Apache Longbow Program Office, assessing production capabilities and evaluating proposals has made him an integral part of Redstone.

"I've worked with Tony for 20 years," Dan Haugan, supervisor for the aviation team, said. "Tony accomplishes all of his assignments to the best of his abilities at

all times, and volunteers to do more when the need presents itself. Periodically the need for someone to work on a special, short term assignment or project occurs. Tony can be counted on to be one of the first to volunteer to help out. This personal trait of wanting to help out or be of assistance to others also manifests itself in his service to the community as exemplified by Tony's work with Habitat for Humanity and other community projects."

When asked if he thinks being deaf has impacted his career, Labath is open and honest. "I cannot ascertain as to whether being deaf actually affected my career," he said. "First of all, I haven't been 'hearing' so I cannot compare between the two. Also, if I did think that I would be at where I should be at this point, I wouldn't know if it was because I am deaf or because if it is who/what I am, that is... what I am now because of my own environments throughout my life."

He is optimistic about the unknown factors, such as the unvoiced opinions of others. "Did I get to where I am solely on my merits or because of my deafness? Or vice versa? Can I determine that I was moved up because people 'secretly' felt sorry for me... or that I am falling behind due to 'insufficient information' I receive? I can only believe I am at the right place at the right time."

Born deaf to a large family, Labath is one of two hearing impaired siblings and



Photo by Kelley Lane

TONY LABATH

six others who are not. He has split his time between his commitments to his wife, Judith, three grown stepsons and their families, his commitment to his career and Redstone, and has still found time to give to the community.

He is one of the two chairpersons of the Huntsville Area Deaf Awareness Committee, who seek to facilitate understanding between the hearing and deaf communities. Labath says the goal of his term is one of better communication. "It would be very neat if people can easily adapt to whatever communication mode necessary to speak with other people and flip back. That is, if a deaf person was to walk up to the counter at a fast food restaurant, the person taking the order could just do some signing and perhaps do some gesturing as well," he said. "One doesn't need to be very fluent in American Sign Language for this type of conversation."

Labath is treasurer of the Huntsville Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. They encourage people to become interpreters for the deaf and foster the spirit of professionalism. Labath is also a member of the Huntsville Chapter of Alabama Association of the Deaf, seeking to improve the general welfare of the deaf community.

That list would seem to be enough to keep anyone busy. However, Labath still manages to find time for another organization, Habitat For Humanity of Madison County. "Obviously, I am a firm believer

in the American dream in that everyone should have a choice in owning their own home," he said.

Labath underwent training through Habitat for Humanity to become a house leader several years ago. He and a team of deaf volunteers are planning to build a house together. "I wanted to build any house but a majority in the deaf community wanted to build a house for a deaf family. So we are still waiting for the perfect applicant. My goal was to showcase that deaf people are perfectly capable of doing anything the hearing people can — of course, except to hear," he said.

Labath envisions the challenges of the future as not belonging solely to the deaf, but to the community at large. While he thinks that the Civil Rights Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act were a large step in the right direction, the changes needed to bring both sides of the hearing issue together are ones of attitude and not legalities.

"If every person was compassionate and understanding all along, we won't have to need those laws and probably a whole stack of other laws as well," he said. "To be fair, I should do the same." He hopes to begin work on the Habitat home for the deaf by the deaf soon.

He sees being awarded Deaf Person of the Year as an affirmation of what he has believed in all along. But don't think Labath plans to slow down any time soon.

"I feel I have accomplished a lot but I think there is still a lot more to do. I have always felt that I'd want to go into the Peace Corps after I retire or perhaps get a position with Habitat for Humanity in some capacity," he said.

He also makes time for Star Trek, but this Trekkie isn't tuning in for the fancy gadgets. He's admiring the dream behind the toys. "Gene Roddenberry envisioned what the people are capable of. Of what the future can be. To me, it is possible to see every person can have a home, be well-fed, have access to adequate medical services, and to make a choice in a profession. Every person should be evaluated solely only on his own merits and what he/she is capable of doing," Labath said. "The word 'disability' is an ugly word — 'ability' isn't."

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By Donald Margulies



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00220527

Library

continued from page 1

now," Alden said, taking a book from the shelf and opening the cover to show the signature card in the pocket. "Lots of people are sad about losing this method. If they can't remember if they've read the book at first glance, all they have to do is check the card. They won't be able to do that with the new system.

"But on the other hand, it provides a little more privacy because no one knows who checked the book out before them," she said.

End of March is the target date to convert to the new bar code system of checking out books. It's also the time frame for putting the card catalog online for remote users.

"People will be able to access our system from their computers at work or home," Alden said. "They know if we have what they need and they can even call us and reserve it. All they have to do is come and pick it up. It will be so much more convenient."

Besides having five new computers to use for the Internet and data base research to use at the library, patrons have access through their home or office computers to online reference services such as the Biography Resource Center, Country-Watch.com, Ebsco Host: Military Full Text Magazines; Career and Education Resource Center, Facts.com, Health and Wellness Resource Center, Literature Resource Center, NetLibrary — U.S. Army General Library e-books collection and Student Resource Center.

"People can access all these resources by using their AKO user ID and password, right from their own computers," Alden said. "This will let them see full text from magazines and resources that normally you would have to pay for."

And as the library changes the way they do business, the library support staff is right there to help people maneuver

through the system.

"It's really so much better," Piskulic said. "And like with most new things, we expect people will have questions. We'll be happy to help them out.

"The computers have been very popular," Piskulic said. "It's great for soldiers first arriving who don't have their household goods yet and need a computer. We get a lot of students coming in later in the day, after they get out of school. Soldiers, NCOs use them a lot for preparing papers and presentations. (Software includes) MS Word, Excel, Power Point and Word Publisher.

"Family members are in here a lot, too. We just want to let people know the computers are here. You'd be amazed at how many regulars can walk right past them and not realize they're here."

Internet use guidelines are posted at all the computers and follow Army regulations for use. Examples of prohibited activities include Internet chat, Internet gaming, downloading files illegally, activities that overburden the communications system and activities that reflect adversely on the Command. Policy also states that "Use of any government computer system serves as consent to monitoring of any type of use..."

Time is limited to 30 minutes when others are waiting.

To check out resources and services available through the library, log on to www.redstonemwr.com/html/library.htm.

The library in building 3323 on Red-eye Road is open to active duty, retired, National Guard and Reserve military members and their immediate family; federal employees working on Redstone Arsenal and their immediate family; retired government employees and post contractors.

Hours of operation are Tuesday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Wednesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; closed Sunday and Monday. For more information, call 876-4741.

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Drill sergeant honoree finds trail demanding



Photo by Skip Vaughn

TOP DRILL— SSgt. Nathan Espey is congratulated for winning Drill Sergeant of the Year.

SSgt. Nathan Espey wins competition

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Drill sergeant Nathan Espey sees his role as a coach and mentor. He's definitely a winner.

SSgt. Espey, of Bravo Company, 73rd Ordnance Battalion at Fort Gordon, Ga., is the Drill Sergeant of the Year for the 59th Ordnance Brigade. The award luncheon was Friday in the Officers and Civilians Club.

"I'm very proud, ecstatic," Espey, 27, of Cottonwood, Ala., said. His father, Merrill, retired in the Houston County town as a sergeant first class.

Espey has served seven years on active duty and three years in the Reserves. Active since 1995, he said he joined the Army "to serve my country."

He took the basic NCO course at Redstone for two months in early 2001. A wire systems repairer by specialty, he became a drill sergeant in December 2001. He arrived at Fort Gordon in February 2002.

“It’s the hardest job I’ve encountered since I’ve been in the Army thus far,” Espey said of the drill sergeant trail. “It’s very demanding but very rewarding at the same time.”

He said he plans to "finish my last year and possibly two years on the trail and just be successful wherever the Army takes me." He plans to serve 30 years and wants to become a command sergeant major.

In 1997 Espey earned an associate degree in applied science from Central Texas College.

He and his wife, Tanesha, have a daughter, Alicia, 6, and a son, Stephen, 4. He enjoys computers and spending time with his family.

The other drill sergeant of the year candidates included SSgt. Kenric Brooks of Charlie Company, 73rd Ordnance Battalion; SFC Kurt Reed of Fort Sill, Okla.; SSgt. James Deshazer and SFC Edward Sasan of Charlie Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion; and SSgt. Grant Scott of Bravo Company, 832nd.

Some 180 attended the luncheon which featured guest speaker CSM Carl Christian, command sergeant major of Forces Command.

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The *Redstone Rocket* would like to get your thoughts on how to improve this newspaper.

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Comments on the *Redstone Rocket*:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper appears to be a standard notebook page or a sheet of stationery designed for writing.

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00218188

Ethics

continued from page 1

agency letterhead) to the president of the rental car company, and sent it off in a U.S. postage-paid envelope. The president of the company was not amused and returned his scathing response to the head of the agency. As a result of his action, the bureau director was treated to a four-hour ethics session and a fine for personal use of official postage.

Sleepless nights

An offshore safety inspector found much of the government's equipment to be in need of repairs to meet safety standards. He then referred the business to his brother-in-law's repair shop. The rig operators smelled a rat and called the FBI. They discovered that, in return for each referral, the brother-in-law was treating the inspector to an evening with a lady of dubious morals.

The case was brought to trial. In his defense, the inspector claimed that he had not received a "thing of value" in return for the referral. The judge didn't buy it — and neither did his wife.

Contracting out

Allegations were made against a Department of Defense official regarding his use of contractor employees. The official directed two government contractors to entertain an acquaintance he met at a conference in Europe on his behalf. They were directed to take the person out to

lunch as well as out on the town the following evening. The contractors rightly believed that the request was improper and as a result told the DoD official that they "had other plans." The DoD official told them to "cancel them." The contractors eventually took the acquaintance out that evening for several hours.

After an investigation, it was determined that the DoD official had acted in violation of 5 CFR 2635.704 by utilizing contractors' time improperly. His supervisor counseled him and the proper reimbursements were made.

Bad credit rating

An investigation concluded that a senior U.S. Marine improperly used his government credit card by purchasing gas for his personal vehicle, dinners, and concert tickets as well as obtaining cash advances — all unrelated to official travel.

The Marine was counseled by his supervisor and required to reimburse the government for all unauthorized purchases. He retired soon after the investigation.

Number's up

A General Services Administration employee was removed from his position for making non-business calls on a government telephone to the Texas Lottery Commission. The calls cost the GSA \$800. The employee also asked the recipient of the calls to provide false information about the calls by stating that they concerned official government business. The employee was removed from federal service.



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Quality of life survey issued for upcoming conference

Members of the Redstone community are invited to share their concerns about quality of life.

Army Community Service has provided a quality of life survey for the Redstone Arsenal Army Family Action Plan Conference, Feb. 25-26.

"This is your opportunity to make suggestions about programs, services, or benefits affecting you and your family," a

prepared release said. "Suggestions will be discussed at the Redstone Arsenal Army Family Action Plan Conference."

Consider what could be improved in the following areas: medical and dental services, Post Exchange, commissary, military or civilian pay, allowances, entitlements, relocation, housing, traffic, travel, transportation, education, child care, and Morale Welfare and Recreation activities.

Your rank/grade/status: _____

How long have you been at Redstone Arsenal?

Do you live on or off post? _____

(Please type or write legibly)

How would you improve the Army's programs, services, or benefits?

(Be specific and recommend solutions. Give brief examples. Issues can be anything affecting the quality of life at Redstone or impacts the total Army family. Issues must have attainable solutions. Personal complaints will not be addressed. Comments may be continued on a separate sheet. One issue per page.)

Please include the following in the event ACS needs clarification:

Name: _____

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Send your completed survey to Commander, AMCOM, Directorate of Personnel and Family Activities, Army Community Service, AMSAM-RA-CF-AC-QL, building 3338, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898-5000 or fax to 955-9171. Surveys for the conference will be accepted until Feb. 13.

If you would like to participate as a conference delegate, call Virginia Dempsey at 876-5397 fax 955-9171, or virginia.dempsey@redstone.army.mil.

DoD begins help after Columbia shuttle tragedy

By JIM GARAMONE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe said the loss of the Space Shuttle Columbia and its crew of seven is a "tragic day" for the NASA family and America.

The orbiter broke apart above north-central Texas on Feb. 1 as it maneuvered for a planned landing at the Kennedy Space Center, Fla., in about 15 minutes. The shuttle was at about 203,000 feet and going about 12,500 mph, or Mach 18, when the accident occurred.

Five of the seven astronauts aboard were active U.S. military officers. Air Force Col. Rick D. Husband, Navy Cmdr. William C. McCool, Air Force Lt. Col. Michael P. Anderson, Navy Capt. David M. Brown and Navy Cmdr. (Dr.) Laurel B. Clark were lost in the accident. Mission Specialist Kalpana Chawla and Israeli air force Col. Ilan Ramon also died.

Redstone Arsenal officials have offered their prayers and sympathy to the families, friends and co-workers of the Columbia crew and have offered support and assistance to Marshall Space Flight Center employees as they help investigate this tragic event.

NASA Administrator O'Keefe notified President Bush of the accident soon after it happened. The president assured O'Keefe of the full support of the government.

"The Department of Defense will do everything asked of us by the lead federal agency — the Federal Emergency Management Agency," a DoD spokesman said.

Bush spoke to the nation about the loss of the astronauts. "In an age when space flight has come to seem

almost routine, it is easy to overlook the dangers of travel by rocket, and the difficulties of navigating the fierce outer atmosphere of the Earth," the president said. "These astronauts knew the dangers, and they faced them willingly, knowing they had a high and noble purpose in life. Because of their courage and daring and idealism, we will miss them all the more."

O'Keefe said there was no indication that anything from the ground affected the Columbia. He announced the formation of an external review group. The group, which will include representatives from the Air Force and Navy, will have full access to all data involved in the mishap. NASA will also empanel an internal mishap group.

DoD will make all applicable information available, including radar reports generated out of U.S. Strategic Command and the North American Aerospace Defense Command. Also, the DoD Manned Space Flight Support Office will work closely with NASA, the Department of Homeland Security and FEMA. (FEMA officially will become part of DHS by March 1.)

U.S. military bases in Texas are standing by to assist FEMA in any way possible. And the newly formed U.S. Northern Command will also help civilian authorities upon request.

A visibly moved O'Keefe spoke of the mishap during a Feb. 1 press conference from Kennedy Space Center. "It started out as a pretty happy morning awaiting the landing of STS-107," he said. "We highly anticipated their return, because we couldn't wait to congratulate them for their extraordinary performance and their excellent efforts on the science mission on this very important flight.

"(The crew) dedicated their lives to pushing the sci-

entific challenges for all of us here on Earth. They dedicated themselves to that and did it with a happy heart, willingly and with great enthusiasm. The loss of this valiant crew is something we will never be able to get over."

O'Keefe said he told the families of the astronauts that he will do everything to help them "work their way through this horrific tragedy."

NASA Associate Administrator for Space Flight Bill Readdy said the families are bearing up to the tragedy with an incredible amount of dignity. "One thing came across loud and clear as we were visiting with them," he said. "They knew the crew was absolutely dedicated to the mission that they were performing... They believed in what they were doing."

Readdy said the families told NASA to "find what happened, fix it, and move on. We cannot let their sacrifice be in vain."

The Columbia mishap occurred almost 17 years to the day after the Space Shuttle Challenger explosion. On Jan. 28, 1986, Challenger erupted in a ball of flames about one minute after liftoff from Kennedy Space Center. Seven astronauts died in that mishap, among them three military officers: Navy Captain Michael J. Smith, Air Force Lt. Col. Francis Richard "Dick" Scobee and Air Force Lt. Col. Ellison S. Onizuka.

Thirty-six years ago, on Jan. 27, 1967, three astronauts died in a flash fire at Kennedy Space Center during a launch pad test of the Apollo/Saturn space vehicle being prepared for the first piloted flight. Air Force Lt. Col. Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom, Air Force Lt. Col. Edward H. White and Navy Lt. Cmdr. Roger B. Chaffee were victims of that tragic accident.

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Soldiers at ease

Army theater troupe delivers uplifting message

Dinner theater arrives Feb. 21 at post club

By HARRIET RICE
Community and Family Support Center

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Float across a lazy river, watch the sun set from a rooftop, dance the salsa on a starry night. The Army's Theatre BRAVO will bring these images to life in a 70-minute show called "Lift Up Your Hearts, America" now touring the U.S. and overseas. Redstone Arsenal's Morale, Welfare

and Recreation is host for the dinner-theater performance Feb. 21 at the Officers and Civilians Club ballroom beginning with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at 6 p.m. followed by a prime rib dinner at 7. The performance will begin at 8. Tickets are available for \$13.95 (club members) and \$15.95 (non-members). Members of the Redstone community and their guests are invited. For more information, call 830-2582 or Brandie DeRemer 313-1203. "The performing arts — theater — are a perfect vehicle to carry the message of hopes, dreams and love," Tim Higdon, Theatre BRAVO producer for the Army Entertainment staff feel that, as a country, we are in a period in which we need to focus on our sense of pride and patriotism and what we cherish about America." To that end, Bonnie Daniels and Liz Bell Young, participants in the Army's community theater program, used their playwriting and choreographic talents to assemble a montage of songs, writings and poetry that reflect Americana and is designed to leave audiences uplifted. The cast members, two signal systems

specialists, a tank gunner, a combat medic and a mental health counselor, have set aside their military duties for six months to bring smiles, laughter and maybe even a tear or two to the faces of soldiers, families and deployed troops from Georgia to Germany. Selected from live auditions in October, sergeants David Yoder, Maylan Thomas, and Hall Jai Picciano, along with specialists Vanessa Bradchulis and Armando Correa bring their vocal, dance, theatrical, leadership and soldiering skills

■ Theatre BRAVO soldier cast does 70-minute show

Troupe

continued from page 12

to this production with enthusiasm and a new appreciation for the hard work needed to stage a show.

"Our show goes through a variety of emotions," Bradchulis, from Viseek, Germany, said. "It's a rainbow of colors, so I think the biggest challenge was being able to change (characters) quickly."

"You have to have discipline and patience," said Sgt. Kenneth Carden, a Lakeland, Va., resident assigned to the U.S. Southern Command in Miami, Fla.

"If you don't have discipline and patience in the theater, you're not going to get anywhere, because you have to be able to take criticism." Carden is responsible for the lighting and audio systems that support the show and also serves as an understudy.

The six soldiers are assigned to the Army Community and Family Support Center, the agency responsible for more than 200 Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs, of which Army Entertainment and this production is one.

Music in "Lift Up Your Hearts, America" includes songs by Billy Joel, James Taylor, Carly Simon, Roger Miller, Woody Guthrie, and George M. Cohan. Threads of poetry by Robert

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Budget request funds war on terror, transformation

President asks Congress for nearly \$380 billion

By JIM GARAMONE

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The president's fiscal 2004 defense budget request would fund the ongoing war on terrorism while continuing the transformation of the armed forces to meet the threats of the future.

The president is asking Congress for \$379.9 billion for defense in fiscal 2004, which begins Oct. 1, 2003. That breaks down to spending \$42 million an hour, said a senior defense official who briefed reporters Jan. 31 on the 2004 request.

The budget request is \$15.3 billion more than for fiscal 2003. By service, the Army would receive \$93.7 billion, the Navy and Marine Corps would get \$114.6 billion, and the Air Force, \$113.7 billion. Defensewide spending would be \$57.9 billion. The amount each service spends is roughly the same percentage as in the past.

Attracting and keeping quality people in the military is the highest priority of the budget. Projected military pay raises range from 2 percent to 6.25 percent. The lowest ranking servicemembers would receive the 2 percent raise. "They are the most junior, and they don't spend a lot of time at those grades," the official said. The mid-level grades would receive the highest pay raises. As in the past, if

approved, the raises go into effect on Jan. 1, 2004.

The budget would allow the department to lower the out-of-pocket expenses servicemembers pay if they live off base. The budget will drop the costs to around 3.5 percent, with elimination assured for fiscal 2005. When then-Defense Secretary William Cohen announced this housing initiative on Jan. 6, 2000, out-of-pocket expenses averaged 19 percent.

Active duty end strength is pinned at 1,388,100 and the Selected Reserve set at 863,300. The senior official said the numbers do not include activated reservists.

The request includes \$5 billion for military construction and family housing. Family housing privatization is set at \$346 million for 36,262 units. Private industry, however, puts in \$8 for every dollar the government invests. "You're looking at, really, \$2.5 billion a year," the official said. "That's how private industry would view it."

The budget request would put the services on track to eliminate substandard housing by 2007 except for the Air Force. The Air Force has four bases that will be finished in 2008 and overseas housing will run into 2009.

Military health care would receive \$15.3 billion in fiscal 2004. All told, military personnel accounts would be at \$98.6 billion in fiscal 2004, up from \$93.4 billion in fiscal 2003.

Operations and maintenance accounts are set at \$117 billion. This would fund

Army tank-miles at 913 and Army flying hours at 13.1 hours per crew per month. Navy flying hours are set at 20.8 hours and Navy steaming days set at 54 days per quarter. Air Force flying hours works out to 16.8 hours per crew per month. A tank-mile is one tank per crew driven one mile.

The senior defense official said the department is examining the validity of tank-miles as a standard measure. He said they may not be the best way to measure readiness as the Army continues its transformation.

The Army has terminated 24 systems including the Crusader artillery system, the Abrams tank and Bradley fighting vehicle upgrades, and multiple launch rocket system conversions. The service also restructured its medium tactical vehicle program, battle command systems and Javelin missile system.

Transformation is a large part of the defense budget. The senior official said some \$25 billion would go directly to transformational programs. But the services have used transformation changes to date to get more funds to continue the process.

The Army has terminated 24 systems including the Crusader artillery system, the Abrams tank and Bradley fighting vehicle upgrades, and multiple launch rocket system conversions. The service also restructured its medium tactical vehicle program, battle command systems and Javelin missile system.

The Navy will retire 26 ships and 259 aircraft early. The largest component of the ship retirements are Spruance-class destroyers. These ships were built in the mid-1970s and are an "operating sink," meaning the maintenance needed to keep them in service is considered prohibitive. The aircraft retired early are mostly F-14 fighters and S-3 anti-submarine aircraft, Navy officials said. The senior defense official said these changes should allow the Navy to reduce end-strength by 10,000 across DoD's Future Years Defense Program, which projects the department's situation through fiscal 2009.

The Air Force will retire 114 fighters — mostly early model F-16s and some F-15s — and 115 mobility/tanker aircraft as well as restructure the B-1 bomber program. The official estimated these changes will free up just over \$7 billion in fiscal 2004.

He estimated all the services' efforts would save about \$82 billion over the Future Years Defense Program.

"The basic point of this year's budget is that we have accepted near-term risk in order to transform for the longer term," he said.

Some specific transformational programs are the Army's Future Combat Sys-

tem, which would receive \$1.7 billion in fiscal 2004. In addition, the Army would receive \$900 million to procure 301 Stryker interim armored vehicles. The request programs \$1.1 billion to continue the Comanche helicopter program.

The Navy will spend \$1.5 billion for the new-generation CVN-21 aircraft carrier available in fiscal 2007.

The department has programmed \$453 million for transformational satellite communications based on laser technology, and \$299 million on a Space-based Radar System.

Last year, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld took a lot of heat from Congress over shipbuilding. The budget calls for an almost \$3 billion increase. Shipbuilding is pegged at \$12.1 billion in fiscal 2004. The Navy would receive a Virginia-class nuclear attack submarine, three Arleigh Burke-class Aegis destroyers, a San Antonio-class amphibious transport ship and two cargo ships. In addition, the Navy would receive \$1.2 billion for research and development of the DDX destroyer, the littoral combat ship and the CGX cruiser.

In aircraft, the request allocates \$5.2 billion for the F/A-22 Raptor program (22 aircraft), \$3.5 billion for the F/A-18 Hornet (42 planes) and \$4.4 billion for the Joint Strike Fighter program.

The Air Force would get \$3.7 billion for 11 more C-17 Globemaster III transports, and the Marines and Air Force would receive \$1.8 billion for 11 V-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft.

The total DoD budget is 3.4 percent of the gross domestic product and 16.6 percent of the federal budget. The senior defense official said that 3.4 cents on a dollar as the United States fights a two-front war against terror is a good investment.

"We don't think this is an undue burden on the economy in any way, shape or form," he said. But he also made the point that the request doesn't factor in the costs of operations worldwide. "We don't know what those costs will be, and any figures you get will be garbage," he said.

He said the department is working with the Office of Management and Budget to capture the cost of operations and go back to Congress for additional funds.



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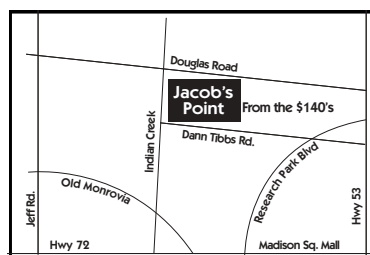
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Commissary chips in for Special Olympic athletes

Household product sales raise money for program

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

The most inspiring athletes don't always make it to the fronts of cereal boxes. The Special Olympics brings athletes with mental retardation, cognitive delays and significant learning problems from more than 150 countries worldwide to compete in their summer and winter games and to have a little fun while improving their physical fitness and self-esteem.

Their motto — "Let me win. But if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt" — is a message of hope and pride to the 170 million individuals throughout the world with mental retardation. The program is offered free of charge to all participants. Funding is provided through the local chapters and through corporate donations. Redstone has partnered again this year with Proctor and Gamble to help make some of those Olympic dreams a reality.

As part of the partnership, the Commissary stocked a special display of Proctor and Gamble products prominently displayed under the Olympic torch so that all would be reminded of the valiant struggle of those living with mental retardation. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of the merchandise included is to be donated to the Madison County Special Olympics program. It comes out to 25 cents a case for products ordered by the Commissary.

"So far we've done pretty good," Katrina Coleman, retail merchandiser on Redstone, said. "Last year we donated \$700." Final tallies are not in yet for the fund-raiser that started in mid-December

and wrapped up in January. Early estimates put the total number of cases at 3,200, but the final count is yet to be announced. As the No. 1 sales market in the region, Redstone Arsenal totals are expected to be high.

"I think we're going to top all of the previous years," Coleman said.

At the beginning of the promotion, Special Olympians Baxter Moore and Lynette Wissstost were present in the commissary to give away free Proctor and Gamble products and to promote fund-raising efforts. Recognizable products, such as Tide, were raffled off every 20 minutes. Balloons bobbed merrily as donations were also accepted. The total collected for the day was surprising. "They collected \$82 and some odd cents. It turns out they needed new uniforms, the cost of which was exactly the amount they collected," Coleman said.

Supporting Special Olympics is nothing new for Proctor and Gamble, who have contributed over \$23 million to Special Olympics through programs like Redstone's. All of the donations are made locally to the Special Olympics chapter in that area. Redstone has made a reputation for striving to give back to the community and this is just another way of accomplishing that goal. Redstone may receive a reward other than the obvious benefit for its part in the Special Olympics fund-raiser.

"There is a competition between commissaries," Coleman said. "Ten winners have \$2,000 deposited in the scholarship fund in their name."

Commissaries all over the world hope to have their names on that list. A plaque will be presented to each commissary in June and the check presented to the local Special Olympics program, just in time for the 2003 World Summer Games in Dublin, Ireland.

Traveling theater coming to Redstone

Troupe

continued from page 13

"The 'Roadside America' segment is a hoot," Higdon said. "We highlight some of the unique and sometimes bizarre attractions you find along the highways of America, such as the world's largest ball of twine and the Spam Museum."

"Lift Up Your Hearts, America"
Feb. 21 at the Officers and Civil-ians Club ballroom. For more information, call 830-2582 or Brandie DeRemer 313-1203.

When soldiers perform music from Big River, they share Huckleberry Finn's thoughts about the mighty Mississippi, bringing the audience along to share what the river means to him. There are familiar patriotic tunes as well as the new rhythms of city life.

CFSC/Army Entertainment staff mem-


bers Sgt Tobin Atkinson, stage manager, and Sgt. Robert Anderson, noncommissioned officer-in-charge, complete the ensemble, which is entirely self-contained, travels light, and can set up and perform under any conditions. They will tour through March staging more than 80 shows at 40 locations in 16 states in the U.S., Germany, Italy, the Balkans, and, if conditions allow, the Middle East. With less than six weeks of rehearsal, the troupe was ready to hit the road after opening weekend.

"I hope by being part of this production, I can show soldiers that there are people out there working hard, actually concerned about more than that soldiers just have food and a roof over their heads," said Sgt. David Yoder, whose home is in Breezewood, Pa., less than two hours north of Virginia. "Soldiers are Americans, and they're important people as well as just being soldiers. I hope I can take that with me and let them know that."

Editor's note: Harriet Rice is public affairs officer for the Community and Family Support Center.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Thrift Shop volunteer taking care of business

Spouse of Army retiree gave 400 hours last year

By SANDY RIEBELING

Staff writer
sandy@himes.com

The Army had a different definition of volunteering back in 1964.

"We didn't have a choice," Gail Askew, Army retiree spouse and Thrift Shop volunteer, said. "My husband was a second lieutenant. He had to join the Officers Club. I had to join the Officers Wives Club. And every unit on post had to perform so many hours of volunteer duty. It was a quota system and the wives were expected to hold up that end. That was their job."

Askew logged her inaugural volunteer hours at Fort Bragg's (N.C.) first Thrift Shop in 1964, less than a month after becoming an Army wife. She worked her hours happily.

"Hey, my husband brought home \$224 a month," Askew said. "We needed that thrift shop. I remember hearing that one of (Redstone's) commanding generals bought his first dress blue uniform at a Thrift Shop. This is something our military community needs."

As her husband, retired Col. Art Askew, served his country around the world, so did Askew serve the military, working in thrift shops at nearly every duty station. When she didn't work in the base thrift shop, it was simply because her true passion — museums — won out. When she and her husband came to Huntsville in 1998, Askew admits she was tempted to forgo the thrift shop experience and volunteer at some of the local museums but her heart is connected to military families.

Last year, Askew worked more than 400 volunteer hours at Redstone's Thrift Shop because she still believes it's a service the military community needs. It's why she agreed to serve a two-year term as chairman of its board five years ago and why she's doing it again.

So, why was she surprised when the nominating committee selected her as the



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

CHECKOUT LINE— Gail Askew, Thrift Shop 2002 Volunteer of the Year, checks out customers at the shop on a busy weekday morning.

first-ever recipient of the Thrift Shop Volunteer of the Year award?

"We have so many good volunteers — hard workers," she said. "That's one of the reasons we decided to institute the Volunteer of the Year Program. There is an awards program for the whole of Redstone and we participate in that but we wanted to do something to honor our workers from within. I never expected to be considered."

Askew didn't expect it because she is serving as the chairman of the board but according to thrift shop manager Isabel Boicourt, she puts in her hours working

just like everyone else.

"She's a real hard worker," Boicourt said. "She doesn't lord over us because she's chairman. It's kind of the opposite. She's just Gail. She comes to us for advice and ideas and gets us very involved."

Frank Barthold, retired Marine chief warrant officer and 10-year Thrift Shop volunteer with his wife, Kathryn, agreed. Barthold served on the committee to select the 2002 winner.

"We considered everyone," he said of the 50 volunteers. "Their contributions to the shop, number of hours worked, production, how well they work with the team... This lady works incessantly. She cleans the donations that come in. Takes the clothes home and washes them. Evaluates clothing. Designates where the stuff goes that we can't accept — charitable donations. She works out on the floor."

"We have several volunteers that contribute a lot of hours and work very hard," he said. "We've got great people. But she takes this stuff home with her mentally,

too. She's not the type to leave it at the door. She comes back the next day with a plan to fix it or make it better."

Askew's goal is just that. When business dropped off after Sept. 11, she laid awake at night struggling with a plan to keep the shop thriving, trying to find way to encourage the people still able to gain access to the store to come in and shop and to consign.

"My goal is to always remember the mission," Askew said. "We are here to provide a service to the military. It's a place where they can bring stuff when they are leaving and a place they can come and get things inexpensively when they arrive. Our second mission is to invest the profits back into the military community."

Last year more than \$152,000 was brought into the store. Consignors get 70 percent and salaries of paid positions are deducted from the remainder. By year's end, the shop reported donations of more than \$14,000.

The Thrift Shop is fully computerized, which is a first for Askew. Most of the technology was adapted in the last five years while she was volunteering. She's seen computer crashes and lived through the dark-looming threats of the Y2K bug. When she first came on board with the Thrift Shop, what little technology used was done on aged, used computers.

Askew went to local corporations for donations. Colsa Corporation and SAIC donated new equipment that has since allowed the shop to become fully automated.

"Now all of our inventory is computerized," Askew said. "It's just like Wal-Mart or K-Mart. We use bar codes to put items into the inventory and they're taken out of the inventory when they're scanned at the register."

As for setting prices, that is still left up to the consignors.

"We're trying to do more to make the shop a success," Askew said. "We dropped our rate from 33 to 30 percent, which is better than most places in the Huntsville, Decatur area. We've also added crafts."

Crafters eligible to shop at the Thrift Shop can now bring in their craft items for sale. The shop gets 15 percent.

"We're hoping to bring in a different group of people that wouldn't normally come in, both crafters and people who shop for crafts," she said. "It's just getting started. The bottom line is, the more business we bring in, the more we can give away to the community."

For more information about consigning or shop hours, call 881-6992.

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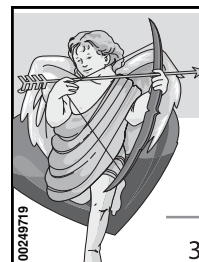
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CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



REDSTONE VILLAGE BREAKS GROUND.

Construction of Redstone Village launched with an official groundbreaking ceremony in late 2002. The Board of Directors, future residents, and Huntsville community leaders commemorated the special event.

(Pictured at left) Walter Frey with Herbert J. Sims and Co. Inc., Congressman Robert E. Cramer, and Pat Gleason with Greystone Communities Inc. were honored at the Redstone Village Groundbreaking Ceremony.



A&M ROTC shows you've got to have heart

Playing shorthanded, trailing at halftime, cadets beat Academy

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

What are the odds against a four-member team, including the only female on the basketball court, winning after trailing by double digits at halftime?

Christy Maxwell and her three teammates did just that for Alabama A&M ROTC.

Maxwell scored a game-high 17 points, including 14 in the second half, as A&M beat the NCO Academy 47-44 on Jan. 29 at Pagano Gym. She made four of her five 3-pointers after intermission and finished with four steals and three rebounds.

"To me it shows that we have a lot of heart," said the 5-foot-7 guard who played one season for the Alabama A&M women's team in 1997-98. "And basically when we put our mind to it, we can do it. Just play good, smart ball."

But unfortunately for A&M, the team was ejected from the league the next day for using ineligible players. A&M's four victories became losses and its five opponents were awarded forfeit wins, according to the troop sports office.

"After careful examination of available records, (Alabama A&M) was found in violation of the eligibility policy for the 2003 Unit-Level Basketball five times," sports director Ted Compoc said in a prepared release.

A&M trailed the Academy 28-14 at halftime.

"Second half we focused on basically where most of their points were coming from which was their big man down low. We figured we would have to put a body on him," Maxwell said. "And everybody just played hard and rebounded, played good defense. And we took our time on offense."

"Our saying is: It's better to be small and smart and play good ball than to be



Photo by Skip Vaughn

ALL FOR ONE— From left A&M's Charlie Mack, Roderick Woods, Christy Maxwell and Mike Ragan celebrate their 47-44 win over NCO Academy.

big and not able to think."

Maxwell, a senior majoring in early childhood elementary education, will receive her commission in May. Her college basketball career ended prematurely after she was injured in a two-car accident in May 1998 at the intersection of Wynn and Technology Drive. She had minor neck and back injuries, nothing permanent, but the accident stopped her from returning to the team during the regular season.

"Coach took my scholarship and I got into ROTC to help me finish paying for my school," she said.

So, this game's improbable finish wasn't Maxwell's first comeback.

Roderick Woods added 16 points and three steals for A&M. Mike Ragan scored all nine of his points in the second half; and team captain Charlie Mack added five points with nine rebounds. A&M had four other players on its roster but was shorthanded this night.

"A lot of determination, no-quit attitude," Mack, small forward, said of the win. "Even though we were 14 down at one time, we never did give up. We just

kept playing. And once we started eliminating our mistakes and capitalizing on their mistakes, I knew we could win this game."

It didn't look that way in the first half with NCO Academy center Mark Thomas controlling the paint. Thomas finished with 17 points, 14 rebounds and four blocks but scored only six in the second half. NCO Academy lost for the second time in four games but its record became 3-1 with the forfeit.

"I think for the most part we played down to the competition," Academy guard Kraig Reed said. "We're a much better team than that. They said they had four

players, really they had five because the refs were calling a one-sided game. We were in a 1-and-1 penalty the first five minutes of the second half and first half was just the same.

"But the refs were no excuse, even though they were calling a one-sided game. We played down to the competition. But they (A&M) showed up, they had the heart today."

The Academy increased its seemingly safe lead to 34-17 early in the second half. But A&M fought back with outside shooting. Maxwell's 3-pointer and layup cut the deficit to 40-39 with 4:38 left. Ragan's putback tied the score at 41-all at 2:02. Woods' jumper put A&M ahead to stay 43-41 at 1:15. Willie Gurley drew the Academy within 45-44 with his 3-pointer with 11 seconds left. However, Ragan ended the scoring with two free throws.

"We basically collapsed," Academy guard/forward Demmonique Walker said. "We weren't moving the ball around. Actually we got relaxed. They played with heart, we didn't."

Here are the standings after games Jan. 27-30: Delta (6-0), HHC 59th (4-1), NCO Academy (4-1), Headquarters & Alpha (3-2), Charlie (3-3), AMCOM (3-3), Marines (2-3), Bravo-1 (2-3), Alpha 131st (1-3) and Bravo-2 (0-4). Results included HHC 59th d. Headquarters & Alpha 72-37, Delta d. Alpha 131st 90-49, Bravo-1 d. Marines 59-44, HHC 59th d. Charlie 58-44, Headquarters & Alpha d. AMCOM 42-41, Charlie d. Headquarters & Alpha 37-28, Delta d. Marines 32-26, AMCOM d. Bravo-1 46-43, HHC 59th d. Bravo-2 57-41 and NCO Academy d. Alpha 131st 60-29.

Volleyball teams in action

The Redstone Arsenal Volleyball League has returned after a break during the holidays.

Four teams competed Jan. 29 at Redstone Fitness Center.

Team 1 beat team 2 in the third set

21-18 after splitting the first two sets. Team 3 beat team 4 25-23, 25-23, 21-15.

Games are today at 5:30 p.m. at the fitness center. For more information, call Paul Banks at 842-6131 or Felix Milar at 313-6091.

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Sports & Recreation

Boating safety classes

Redstone Flotilla 2406 offers boating safety classes in room 215 at building 3305, Stillwell Hall, on Zeus Drive. Classes will be held 6:30-8:30 p.m. Feb. 13 through March 27, April 10 through May 22, June 12 through July 24, Aug. 14 through Sept. 25 and Oct. 9 through Nov. 20. A \$22 fee covers the cost of the class text and binder. For more information or to register, call Tom Kunhart 885-7096 (work) or 830-6621 (home).

Youth baseball signup

Youth Services will soon begin registering children ages 5-12 for spring baseball, softball and T-ball leagues. Registration is Feb. 13 through March 7. Cost is \$15 per child or \$35 per family per year for Central Registration at building 1500; \$35 per child for baseball, softball or T-ball fee. Leagues are open to children of active duty and retired military personnel, DoD/Army, contractor and NASA. A birth certificate and current physical must be submitted for each child's registration (if not already on file and current). Anyone interested may register at the Challenger in building 1500 from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Practices begin in early April; and league play runs from May through June. Volunteer coaches and assistant coaches are needed. For more information, call 876-3704 or 313-3699.

Women's golf group

The Huntsville Chapter of the Women's Executive Golf Association will hold its annual Tee-Off Event, Feb. 20 at the Officers and Civilians Club. The entire Team Redstone community is invited. The event will begin at 5:30 p.m. and conclude by 8. Rosie Jones, an LPGA golf professional and 21-year veteran of the LPGA tour, is the scheduled guest speaker. For more information, call 852-9184.



Conferences & Meetings

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Feb. 20 from 6:30-7:30 in the morning at Redstone Golf Club. For more information, call retired CSM Jean Rose 313-1659.

Air show concession volunteers

The Navy's Blue Angels flight demonstration team is to perform March 29-30 at Huntsville Airport. The concessionaire needs 188 volunteers to staff 16 booths each day of the air show. Booths will require 12, 3, 6 or 20 people. This is an opportunity for clubs and organizations on the Arsenal to earn extra money for scholarships or other worthwhile projects. A meeting is scheduled for Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. in the Redstone Room at the Challenger Club. At least one representative from each club or organization should attend. Retired Navy Capt. Charles Steck-

ler will discuss details and requirements to staff the various booths and provide an opportunity for representatives to sign up for booths. Steckler can be reached at 882-9524 or e-mail steckgram@aol.com.

Marine Corps league

The Brandon-Wilbourn Marine Corps League Detachment will hold its monthly meeting Feb. 11 at 7 p.m. at American Legion Post 237 on Drake Avenue. The scheduled speaker will discuss Alabama constitutional reform.

Enlisted spouses

The Enlisted Spouses Club will meet Feb. 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Challenger Club. All active duty and retired enlisted spouses are invited. For more information, call Crystal Taylor 864-3126.

Alabama State alums

The Alabama State University, Rocket City Alumni Chapter will have its monthly meeting Feb. 15 at 8:30 a.m. at the Piccadilly Cafeteria in the Madison Square Mall.

Aviation logistics conference

AMCOM and the Tennessee Valley chapter of the Army Aviation Association of America will hold the Worldwide Aviation Logistics Conference and Product Support Symposium next week. The conference is Feb. 11-12 at Bob Jones Auditorium. For more information, call Pat Hopkins at 313-1476. On Feb. 12 the Ten-

nessee Valley Chapter will host a symposium reception at the Huntsville Hilton, with the symposium beginning the following morning. The symposium, luncheon and the AAAA evening awards banquet will be held at the Von Braun Center. For symposium information, call Connie Armstrong or Janice Sanders of AEPCO Inc. 464-9191.

Education committee

The Garrison Education Meeting is Feb. 19 at noon at the Academy for Science and Foreign Language, 3221 Mastin Lake Road. The meeting will cover issues relating to Redstone Arsenal-affiliated children and their educational needs. For more information, call Pam Berry 955-6309.

Federal retirees

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees will meet Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Refreshments start at 9:30 a.m. and the program at 10. Scheduled speakers are Sheri Buren and Joann Perez of Raymond James Financial Services. For more information, call 881-4944/3168.



Miscellaneous

Weather closings

If inclement weather causes Redstone Arsenal to close or delay its opening, tune

See Announcements on page 20



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Announcements

in to any of the following stations for the most current information: Radio — WAHR, 99.1FM; WDRM, 102FM; WEKR, 1240AM; WEUP, 1600 AM; WGSV, 1270AM; WJAB, 90.9FM; WLRH, 89.3FM; WRAB, 1380AM; WRSA, 97FM; WTKI, 1450AM; WVNN, 770AM; WWIC, 1050AM; WZYP, 104.3FM; Television — WAAY (Channel 31), WAFF (Channel 48) and WHNT (Channel 19). Two additional methods have been implemented to provide current information about delays or closures. You can call 955-8445 to hear a recorded announcement or you can log on to the Team Redstone Internet site (www.redstone.army.mil) and click the button for weather information.

Challenger bingo

The Challenger will hold Valentine's Night Bingo, Feb. 14. Attendees will receive free bingo game, champagne and chocolates. "Come to our fun Valentine's party with a chance to win \$10,000; jackpot game of \$5,000," a prepared release said. "We also offer a progressive jackpot." Challenger bingo, at building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road, is open to the entire Redstone community age 19-plus. Active and retired military, DoD/Army civilians and Redstone/ NASA contractors are welcome. For more information, call 830-0750.

Scholarship program

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers announces its annual scholarship program for ASMC members and their immediate families. This scholarship is open to high school seniors, undergraduates and those working on graduate programs. The application can be found on the Internet at: <http://www.asmcnline.org/national/nationalawards.shtml> or you may call Jan Howard 313-3447 or Debbie O'Neal 842-7501. Application deadline is Feb. 28. These may be mailed to Howard at PEO, Air and Missile Defense, Attn.: SFAE-AMD-BD-SF, P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, Ala., 35807-3801 or taken to O'Neal, building 5300, third floor, Sparkman Center.

Welfare contributions

Every year the Officer and Civilian Women's Club makes contributions to a variety of organizations. This year a "Welfare Request Form" is being used to standardize the process by collecting the same information from each requesting organization. Welfare Request Forms are available at Army Community Service (building 3338), by mail (OCWC, Attn: Welfare Chairman, P.O. Box 8113, Redstone Arsenal, Ala., 35808), and via e-mail from adlunn@knology.net or dbusk@aol.com. All requests must conform to the OCWC Welfare Request Form. The request deadline is Feb. 28. For more information, call Angie Lunn 837-3310 or Dede Busk 430-1083.

National Guard recruiting

The Alabama Army National Guard is seeking motivated individuals for part-time employment. "Start or continue your military career with the best part-time job in America," a prepared release said. If

you know someone who needs college money, job training, retirement or just wants to serve their country, call SSgt. Joe Cox 881-2889 or 707-8467 or call Sgt. Mike Alexander 350-1610.

Airborne recruits

The Airborne Recruiting Team will visit Redstone Arsenal from Feb. 18-21. Information on when and where will be provided later. In the Ordnance field, PERSCOM is particularly interested in enlisted personnel in the following specialties: 27E, 35H, 35Y and 55B. For more information call SFC Tracy of Fort Knox, Ky., at DSN 536-0427.

National prayer breakfast

Chaplain (Col.) Sam Boone, assistant commandant of the Chaplain Center and School at Fort Jackson, S.C., is to speak at the National Prayer Breakfast, Thursday at 6:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. The officer-in-charge is Chaplain (Maj.) Fred MacLean of Bicentennial Chapel. Tickets are on sale for a suggested donation of \$3. For more information or tickets, call the chapel 876-2409.

Reading to children

Become a Redstone community volunteer reader and read to children at the Child Development Center each Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. Call Shellie or Evelyn 876-7952 to volunteer or for more information.

Bible study

The Bicentennial Chapel invites all women with access to the Arsenal to participate in a Lunch Time Bible Study every Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Bring your own lunch and join them in the assembly room. To reserve your spot, e-mail the following: newtiques@earthlink.net.

Administrative professionals

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will hold its eighth annual Seminar and Education Forum, Feb. 11 at the Huntsville Hilton. Registration begins at 7 a.m. and the last class will end at 3:45 p.m. For more information, call Julie Manning 876-1501. Tuition is \$125.

Acquisition experience

The Army Acquisition Support Center sponsors the Acquisition Career Experience program at various Army locations. The program's intent is to recruit high-potential undergraduate sophomores or juniors with a discipline of study that underpins one of the Army's acquisition career fields of engineering, contracting, information technology, business or logistics. For more information, call Sharon Clodfelter 955-1632 or Maxine Maples 955-2764 or access the following electronic-mail address: http://asc.rdaisa.army.mil/career_management/Acepage/aboutace.htm.

Business scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will present two \$1,000 schol-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Air showcase

Brenda Brock of Madison looks at the Team Redstone display in Huntsville Airport after its 10 backlit panels were updated Jan. 28.

arship awards to a high school and college student majoring in a business field. Merit awards may apply toward tuition, books and fees for undergraduate or graduate level studies. Deadline for applications is April 30. For more information or a scholarship application, call Patricia Motes 876-9317.

Air Force association

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Air Force Association has established a \$1,000 scholarship for the 2003-04 school year in partnership with Calhoun Community College for students wishing to pursue an associate degree in aerospace technology. Applicants must be enrolled in a Civil Air Patrol cadet program, Air Force Junior ROTC program, or be a dependent of an Air Force, Air National Guard, or Air Force Reserve member or be a dependent of another military service member. Application deadline is April 30. For more information, call Terry Roop 313-7170 before 4:30 p.m. or 230-0396 after 5:30.

Theater touring company

You won't want to miss the 2003 BRAVO Army Theatre Touring Company's production of "Lift Up Your Hearts America." In its third season, this year's BRAVO company featuring all active duty soldiers will perform more than 80 shows in 16 states, Germany, Italy, the Balkans and the Middle East. This musical will revue and highlight some of the great works in American theater as well as poignant poetry and life stories of Americans across the country. Selections from West Side Story, Shenandoah, George M.Cohan, Woody Guthrie, Carole King, Chuck Berry, James Brown, and Maya Angelou are just a few of the shows,

artists and writers that will be highlighted in this production. Redstone Arsenal MWR will host the dinner theater performance Feb. 21 at the Officers and Civilians Club ballroom beginning with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at 6 p.m. followed by a prime rib dinner at 7. The performance will begin at 8. Tickets are available for \$13.95 (club members) and \$15.95 (non-members). Members of the Redstone community and their guests are invited. For more information, call 830-2582 or Brandie DeRemer 313-1203.

Spring break registration

Child and Youth Services will accept applications to the Spring Break & Summer Camps at the School Age Services (grades K-5) and Youth Services (grades 6-12) programs from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 13 through March 14. Spring Break Camps are March 17-28. Application and registration information packets may be picked up at central registration in the Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. Registration costs \$15 and a current immunization record must accompany registration. Cost is based on family income per DoD regulations. This program is open to children of all military and military retirees, DoD/Army civilians, NASA, and DoD/Redstone contractors. Call 876-3704 or 955-6309 for details.

Breastfeeding basics

Child and Youth Services is offering a free "Breastfeeding Basics" class for expectant mothers who plan to nurse their infants. The class will be held Feb. 12 from 9-10 a.m. at the ChildWise Center, building 1413 on Spartan Drive. This class is open

See Announcements on page 21

to the entire Redstone community to include contractors. To register or for more information, call 876-2798.

Redstone missile reunion

Aug. 18 will mark the 50th anniversary of the launching of the first Redstone missile at Cape Canaveral. Individuals who were involved in the design, testing or launch of this missile are invited with their families to a reunion dinner on or about Aug. 18 at the Bevell Center in Huntsville. For more information, call Bill Pittman 876-1778.

Project proposals

The fiscal 2004 DoD Challenge Project is open for proposals from the work force. The Department of Defense's high performance computing resources should be dedicated to the highest priority and most demanding projects. Each year, the High Performance Computing Modernization Program conducts a review of the department's most important, high-priority, computationally intensive projects to determine which projects will receive DoD Challenge Project grants. Members of the local DoD community should send their submissions to Marshall McBride at the following address: Space & Missile Defense Battle Lab, Attn: SMDCL-BL-SC (McBride), P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, AL 35807-3801. He can be reached at 955-1355.

Charitable organizations

The Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is accepting applications from federated groups, charitable organizations or a combination thereof, for participation in the 2003 fund-raising campaign. In accordance with Title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 950, an organization must have 501-c-3 status, proof of human health and welfare services, an annual audit/IRS 990 Form, and a board of directors. The open period for acceptance of application packages is March 17 to April 7. Contributions to this fund-raising campaign are received from federal employees, active military personnel, retired federal employees, and governmental contractor personnel from Madison, Morgan, Marshall, Limestone, Cullman and Lawrence counties as well as Lincoln County, Tenn. For more information or to obtain an application call Melinda Seigler, CFC director for United Way of Madison County, at 536-0745, ext.108 or the CFC office 876-9143. Local applications may also be downloaded from www.cfc.gov/cfc or picked up at the United Way of Madison County, 701 Andrew Jackson Way, Huntsville. E-mail inquiries may be made to: Melinda.Seigler@uwahsv.org.

Beginning with babies

A free class for expectant parents or parents of newborn babies, "Beginning with Babies," is Feb. 12 from 10 a.m. to noon at ChildWise, building 1413 on Spartan Drive. This class is open to the entire Redstone community to include contractors. To register or for more information, call 876-2798.

Veterinary special

"Give your pet a Valentines Day gift that will last all year," the Veterinary Treatment Facility says in a prepared release. Throughout February, the clinic will offer

heartworm tests for \$10 and all heartworm preventive for 15 percent off. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. February clinic days for vaccines and sick call are Feb. 3, 4, 6, 10, 11, 13, 20, 26, and 27 by appointment only, call 876-2441. Special evening clinic will be Feb. 25 from 4-6 p.m. for walk-ins, vaccines only.

Army dependent scholarships

Applications for the Army Emergency Relief Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Fund for Dependent Children of Army Soldiers are being accepted through March 3. Dependent children, stepchildren or legally adopted children of soldiers on active duty, retired, or deceased while on active duty or after retirement are eligible. Applications may be printed from the AER web site, www.aerhq.org. Completed applications with supporting documents must be mailed to headquarters AER and postmarked not later than March 3. For more information call Kristi Foster of Army Community Service 876-5397.

Asteroid hunting

The Von Braun Astronomical Society will coach "Asteroid Hunting 101" by Loren C. Ball, Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at the planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. For non-members, admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. Weather permitting, a star party, using the big VBAS telescopes, will follow. For details call Mitzi Adams (256) 961-7626.

Armed forces tribute

An area in northeast Alabama, near Huntsville, has been selected as the site for "The Patriots Tribute," according to Sam Hurst, director and president of the board for the U.S. Armed Forces Tribute Foundation Inc. "This is to be the largest tribute in America to honor all those in the U.S. armed forces," she said. Several board members will be at the Scottsboro Wal-Mart from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday to answer questions. Those interested can write to P.O. Box 490 Centre, AL, 35960 or call Hurst (256) 549-1224.

Reserve recruiting

The 4/100th Battalion (CM) in the 100th Division (Institutional Training), which teaches the specialty 54B, is looking for Reserve officers and soldiers. The headquarters needs a soldier who has the specialty 75H40 to be the personnel action center NCO-in-charge. The headquarters also needs a branch immaterial lieutenant or captain to be a part of the staff or to be an executive officer at the detachment at Anniston. To apply, send an e-mail to Chandra.Roberts@us.army.mil or call (256) 535- 6207/6227.

Butler High reunion

Class of 1983 at Butler High School will have its 20-year reunion Aug. 29-30. Interested classmates should call Tammy 721-2246 or Kelly 829-1427.

Resource managers help

Several members of American Society of Military Comptrollers helped with the Toys for Tots program Dec.12. They sorted and bagged toys for needy children at

the Marine Corps Reserve on South Parkway. The members who volunteered their time included Ronnie Brogan, Bonnie Stokes, Bev Simpson, Myra Cox, Karen Trevey, Bill Tevey, Sherry Masters, Angela Loftis, Barb Hebert, Janet Martin, Kim Stenberg, Tony McAdory, Sue Terry, Pat Thomas and Adriene Fields.

Sweet fund-raiser

The Chocolate and Coffee Tasting Festival, to benefit the Homicide Survivor's Assistance Center of Family Services Center, will be held Sunday from 1-4 p.m. at Huntsville High School cafeteria. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Family Services Center at 600 St. Clair St., building 3, SouthBank in Parkway Place Mall.

PX news

Food Court Cinnabon will operate with new hours effective Feb. 8: Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, in building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursdays from 9-5. Walk-in consignment hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The shop has appointments Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3 p.m. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. The shop is a collection site for New Futures;

please bring your cell phones that are in working order (Audiovox, Ericsson, Kyocera 3035, Motorola and Nokia) and all your inkjet, fax, printer, copier, and laser jet cartridges. For more information, call 881-6992.

Security tip

The Intelligence and Security Directorate says these items are not authorized to be stored in security containers: weapons, funds, precious metals, jewels and drugs. For more information, call 313-1047/1593.

Health center hours

Fox Army Health Center announces holiday hours for President's Day. The Primary Care Extended Hours Clinic will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, Feb. 14-17, for scheduled appointments. All other clinics will be closed. The pharmacy will be open regular hours, 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 14 and closed on Monday, Feb. 17. Advice Nurses are available 24 hours a day at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice and schedule urgent care appointments. Access to the building may be gained through the pharmacy entrance on the south side.

Resume workshop

A resume workshop is 10 a.m. Feb. 13 at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. To register call 876-0446.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS		CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	PQT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?																	
AS OF JAN 31 03	POSITION TITLE	DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U						

THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL

02BK0142077MW2	Lead General Engineer	8-Feb-03	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	76,580 - 117,105	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
03BK0153175E52	Medical Records Techn	7-Feb-03	MEDCOM	GS-0675	8	8	35,078 - 45,602	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
03BK0152318E52	Health Systems Spec	7-Feb-03	MEDCOM	GS-0671	9	9	38,744 - 50,368	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK03140541	Supvy Electronics Engr	8-Feb-03	TMDE	GS-0855	14	14	78,953 - 102,642	X																	
SCBK03156431	International Program Mgmt Spec	10-Feb-03	SAMD	GS-0301	12	12	56,185 - 73,041	X																	
SCBK03131576	Budget Analyst	12-Feb-03	RMD	GS-0560	11	11	46,878 - 60,946	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK0153345FM2	Mechanical Engineer	12-Feb-03	AMRDEC	DB-0830	3	3	56,185 - 86,859	X																	
02BK0152936DC1	Supvy Police Officer	12-Feb-02	GARRISON	GS-0083	9	9	37,579 - 48,849	X																	
02BK0146742OD2	Lead Materials Engineer	13-Feb-03	AMRDEC	DB-0836	4	4	76,580 - 117,105	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
03BK0145718MR2	Supvy General Engineer	13-Feb-03	ACO SPT CTR	GS-0801	15	15	92,871 - 120,732	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK0146743DC1	Physical Space Analyst	13-Feb-03	GARRISON	GS-0301	12	12	56,185 - 73,014	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
03BK0146766DR2	Office Automation Asst	14-Feb-03	ACO CENTER	GS-0326	5	5	25,571 - 33,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK0317251	Civil Engineer	14-Feb-03	CoE Huntsville	GS-0813	13	13	66,813 - 86,859	X																	
03BK0152277DR2	Office Automation Asst	14-Feb-03	OMEMS	GS-0326	5	5	25,571 - 33,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK03153823	Admin Support Asst	14-Feb-03	CoE Huntsville	GS-0303	7	7	31,674 - 41,177	X																	
03BK0129518MR2	Electronics Engineer	18-Feb-03	RTTC	GS-0855	17	12	56,659 - 73,041	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK060779JH3	Equipment Specialist (Gen)	27-Feb-03	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	54,275 - 70,555	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK066825JH3	Equipment Specialist (Air)	27-Feb-03	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	54,275 - 70,555	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0665	Audiologist/Speech Pathologist	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0665	11-13	13	44,668 - 88,770	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0683	Dental Lab Technician	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0683	5-7	7	25,467 - 42,083	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0603	Physician's Assistant	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0603	11-13	13	46,689 - 88,770	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0682	Dental Hygienist	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0682	5-7	7	25,467 - 45,493	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0681	Dental Assistant	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0681	5-7	7	25,467 - 42,083	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0680	Dental Officer	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0680	12	12	55,958 - 74,648	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0682	Optometrist	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0682	11-13	13	45,689 - 88,770	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0688	Podiatrist	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0688	11-13	13	48,689 - 88,770	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-DH-02-0610	Registered Nurse	30-Sep-03	MEDCOM	GS-0610	9-12	12	38,588 - 74,648	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-C3-2653	Medical Technologist (VOS)	31-Dec-03	MEDCOM	GS-0644	7-9-10	11-12	31,546 - 72,746	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-C3-2673	Social Worker	31-Dec-03	MEDCOM	GS-0185	9-11	12	38,588 - 72,747	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
MD-C3-2682	Counseling Psychologist	31-Dec-03	MEDCOM	GS-0180	9-11	12	38,588 - 72,747	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
02BK0310741DC1	Supvy General Supply Specialist	31-Dec-03	GARRISON	GS-2001	13	13	64,803 - 84,241	X																	
SCBK03127239	Architect	7-Jan-04	CoE Huntsville	GS-0838	11	12	47,240 - 70,841	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.OPS.MIL

X-LW-03-4676-	Lead General Engineer	7-Feb-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	4	4	78,953 - 120,732	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4680-RW	Lead Materials Engineer	7-Feb-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0806	4	4	78,953 - 120,732	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-SP-03-4583-ST	Medical Records Techn	7-Feb-03	Office Sec of Army	GS-0675	8	8	35,078 - 45,602	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4730-RD	General Engineer	12-Feb-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	3	3	56,185 - 86,859	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4695-RD	Lead General Engineer	14-Feb-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	4	4	78,953 - 120,732	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4723-RD	General Engineer	28-Feb-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-0801	4	4	78,953 - 120,732	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
X-LW-03-4717-RD	Physical Scientist	28-Feb-03	Office Sec of Army	DB-1301	4	4	78,953 - 120,732	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

WHO CAN APPLY CODE DEFINITIONS (Note: Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for Army positions)

A - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC

B - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)

C - Compensably Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required)

D - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)

E - Executive Order 12721 eligibles (Former overseas family member employees who meet eligibility requirements)

F - All Federal Employees

H - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)

I - Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP) (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF)

R - Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirements)

T - Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (SF-50 documenting service required)

V - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required)

U - All U.S. citizens

NOTE: If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.

NOTE: The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e., Cashier, Food Service,

Custodial, Bartender. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at www.redstonemwr.com, or you may telephone 876-7772.

